



1950
ANNUAL REPORT
AND
VITAL STATISTICS
OF THE
URBAN DISTRICT OF KNUTSFORD

BY

D. LONGBOTTOM

M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health for the
Urban District of Knutsford.

-----oOo-----

KNUTSFORD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

HEALTH COMMITTEE

Councillors A. J. Hart, Chairman
 E.S.Thomas, J.P., Chairman of the Council
 Mrs. K. M. Wakefield
 W. Shaw
 H. Darlington
 A. E. Percy
 J. Norbury
 F. Jennings
 J. H. Oakes
 Mrs. M. Dixon
 F. W. W. Floyd
 T. S. Meachin

E. MORLEY,

Clerk of the Council.

D. Longbottom, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health.

Geo. R. Butler, M.S.I.A., A.R.San.I.,
Surveyor, Sanitary Inspector &
Cleansing Superintendant.

KNUTSFORD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL,

Council Offices,
KNUTSFORD.

To the Chairman and Members of the Council,

Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting to you the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year ending 31st December 1950.

The population figures given are home populations (including any members of the armed forces stationed in the area) and the births and deaths rates are based on this population. The standardised births and deaths rates are arrived at after allowing for the age and sex distribution of the population, giving a more fair comparison with that of other areas.

There has been some modification in the Classification of Causes of Deaths in table LX as compared with previous years. This now conforms with the Abbreviated List of the International Statistical Classification of Diseases, Injuries and Causes of Death 1948.

The vital statistics as a whole again compare favourably with previous years and those of the rest of the country.

The Birth Rate of 14.2 is lower than the 1949 rate of 17.3 per 1,000 living, and the rate of 15.2 for England and Wales.

The standardised Death Rate of 9.9 compares with one of 11.0 in 1949 and one of 11.6 for England and Wales.

There have again been no deaths of women in consequence of childbirth.

It is remarkable that for the first time on record there have been no deaths in babies under the age of 1 year. There were 8 deaths in this age group in 1949. Indeed, there were no deaths of persons under the age of 30.

Notifications of Infectious Diseases remain low, there being no epidemics of note and there was no mortality other than Tuberculosis.

Again there is a complete absence of Diphtheria.

My thanks are due to the Sanitary Inspector and his staff for the work they have done and also I should like to pay tribute to the Members of the Health Committee for the interest they have shown at all times in the working of the Department.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

(sgd) D. LONGBOTTOM

Medical Officer of Health.

PART 1

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area of District	2,491 Acres
Height above Sea Level	210 feet
Registrar General's estimate of Population	6,357
Number of Inhabited Houses (end of 1949) per Rate Book	1,962
Rateable Value	£47,157
Sum represented by a penny rate	Gross £231.3.-. Estimated Nett £185.8.-.

VITAL STATISTICS

Birth rate per 1000 living	14.2
General Birth Rate (England & Wales)	15.8
Crude death rate per 1000 living	10.5
Standardised Death Rate	9.9
General Death Rate (England & Wales)	11.6
Number of women dying in or in consequence of childbirth	0
Deaths under 1 year in proportion to 1,000 Births	0
" " " " " "	
(England & Wales)	29.8
Deaths from cancer	14
Deaths from Measles	0
Deaths from Whooping Cough	0
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years old)	0
Deaths from Diphtheria	0

The total number of deaths from all causes was 67

PART 11 TABLES

INFANT MORTALITY

Table 1

LIVE BIRTHS

	Legitimate	Illegitimate	Total
Males	39	-	39
Females	48	3	51
TOTALS	87	3	90

Table 11

STILL BIRTHS

	Legitimate	Illegitimate	Total
Males	1	-	1
Females	-	1	1
TOTALS	1	1	2

Table 111.

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE

N I L

Table 1V.

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 4 WEEKS OF AGE

N I L

Table V

Diseases Notified under Acts and Orders
during 1950

Notifiable Diseases	Number of Cases Notified
Measles.....	18
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup).....	-
Erysipelas.....	-
Scarlet Fever	9
Whooping Cough	23
Puerperal Pyrexia	-
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ..	-
Pulmonary Tuberculosis .	3
Other forms of "	2
Pneumonia	1
Chicken Pox	-
Poliomyelitis	-
Food Poisoning	-
TOTAL	56

Table VI

DIPHTHERIA NOTIFICATIONS

	<u>Notifications</u>	<u>Deaths</u>
1941	6	-
1942	1	-
1943	1	-
1944	18	-
1945	13	-
1946	12	-
1947	1	-
1948	1	-
1949	-	-
<u>1950</u>	-	-

Table VII

Number of Cases of Tuberculosis notified during the
year ended 31st December 1950

	0 to 1	1 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 25	25 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 55	55 to 65	65 and Upwd.	Totals
	M.F.	M.F.	M.F.	M.F.	M.F.	M.F.	M.F.	M.F.	M.F.	M.F.	M.F.	M. F.
Pul- Monary						1		1	1			2 1
Non- Pul- Monary				1	1							2

Table VIII

Deaths from Tuberculosis registered during the
year ended 31st December 1950.

	0 to 1	1 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 25	25 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 55	55 to 65	65 and Upwd.	Totals
	M.F.	M.F.	M.F.	M.F.	M.F.	M.F.	M.F.	M.F.	M.F.	M.F.	M.F.	M. F.
Pul- Monary			1									1 -
Non- Pul- monary												

The Register at the end of 1950 showed as follows:-

Pulmonary Cases	Males	11	
	Females	8	19
Non-Pulmonary Cases	Males	2	
	Females	5	7
	TOTAL		26

Table 1X

DEATHS REGISTERED DURING THE CALENDAR YEAR
1950 AND CAUSES.

Causes of Death	Male	Female	Total
All Causes (Certified 67 (Un- " 0			
Tuberculosis, respiratory	1	-	1
Tuberculosis, other	-	-	-
Syphilitic disease	-	1	1
Diphtheria	-	-	-
Whooping cough	-	-	-
Meningococcal infections	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
Measles	-	-	-
Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	-	-
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	3	-	3
Malignant neoplasm, lungs, bronchus	4	-	4
Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	1	1
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	2	2
Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasms	2	2	4
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-	-	-
Diabetes	-	1	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system	-	8	8
Coronary disease, angina	4	1	5
Hypertension with heart dis.	1	1	2
Other heart disease	4	11	15
Other circulatory disease	-	1	1
Influenza	1	-	1
Pneumonia	-	-	-
Bronchitis	1	1	2
Other diseases of respiratory system	1	-	1
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	-	-	-
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	-	-
Nephritis & nephrosis	-	1	1
Hyper-plasia of prostate	1	-	1
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-	-
Congenital malformations	-	-	-
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	2	6	8
Motor vehicle accidents	4	-	4
All other accidents	-	-	-
Suicide	1	-	1
Homicide and operations of war	-	-	-
TOTALS	30	37	67

Table X

	England and Wales	126 County Borough & Great Towns (including London)	148 Smaller Towns (Res- ident Pop- ulation 25,000 - 50,000 at 1931 Census)	London Admini- strative County	Knutsford
<u>BIRTHS</u>					
Live Births	15.8	17.6	16.7	17.8	14.2
Still Births	0.37	0.45	0.38	0.36	0.30
<u>DEATHS</u>					
All Causes	11.6	12.3	11.6	11.8	10.5
Typhoid & para- typhoid	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Whooping Cough	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00
Diphtheria	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Tuberculosis	0.36	0.42	0.33	0.39	0.15
Influenza	0.10	0.09	0.10	0.07	0.15
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Acute poliomyelitis (including polioen- cephalitis)	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.00
Pneumonia	0.46	0.49	0.45	0.48	0.00
<u>Rates per 1,000 Live Births</u>					
<u>DEATHS</u>					
All causes under 1 year of age	29.8(a)	33.8	29.4	26.3	0.00
Enteritis and diarrhoea under 2 years of age	1.9	2.2.	1.6	1.0	0.00
<u>Rates per 1,000 Total (Live & Still) Births</u>					
Notifications (Corrected)					
Puerperal fever and pyrexia	5.81	7.43	4.33	6.03	0.00

Maternal Mortality in England & Wales

International List No. and cause	Rates per 1,000 Total (Live & Still) Births	Rates per million women aged 15-44	Knutsford
651 Abortion with sepsis	0.09	7	0
650, 652 Other abortion	0.05	4	0
640-649, 670-678 Complication of pregnancy and delivery	0.54		
681. Sepsis of childbirth and the puerperium	0.03		
680, 682-689 Other complications of the puerperium	0.15		

(a) Per 1,000 related live births.

Annual Report of the Sanitary Inspector
for the year ending 31st December 1950

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES IN THE AREA.

WATER

The district is supplied with water by the Knutsford Light & Water Company who buy from Manchester Corporation. The water is soft with low salinity and is of exceptionally high degree of organic purity. An extension of the water mains was effected during the year to supply water to additional houses on the Thorneyholme Estate.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION AND SCAVENGING.

All ashbins are emptied and cleansed fortnightly, a certain number being emptied weekly, whilst bins at the hotels and large shops are emptied twice weekly. A S & D Freighter is used for collecting house refuse, and same is disposed of on the controlled system of tipping. A disused clay field is being used as a tip and will eventually result in additional pasture land being available for the farmer.

CAMPING SITES

There are no licenced camping sites in the district and the number of gypsies camping on road sides has reduced to practically nil.

SWIMMING BATHS & POOLS

There are no public or privately owned swimming baths in the town but Lord Egerton allows the use of Tatton Mere for bathing during the summer.

PREMISES AND OCCUPATIONS CONTROLLED BY BYE-LAWS AND REGULATIONS

No nuisances have arisen in respect of tents, vans, sheds, etc.

THE ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

During the general inspection of the district no houses were found to be infested with bugs.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

All the sewerage from the Urban District is carried by gravitating sewers to the Disposal Works on the North East boundary of the town, where the treatment has been carried out quite satisfactorily during the past year. The sewers were twice treated for rat infestation during the year, and on each occasion the results were very satisfactory; Only three manholes being affected, all of which were in the neighbourhood of the storm overflow on the Moor.

SCHOOLS

The sanitary conditions and water supply at the schools are above suspicion as to the cause of infectious disease. The lavatory accommodation and closets are regularly inspected and all elementary schools are disinfected during the summer holidays. Good progress is being made with the construction of the new County School in Bexton Road.

HOUSING

The construction of new houses proceeded very satisfactorily during the year and 40 new Council owned houses were completed and occupied with 16 other houses being in an advanced state.

The Council are now proceeding with the development of their new estate at Thorneyholme. The old mansion has been demolished and the layout which has been approved will provide for a total of nearly 200 houses when completed.

Licences have been issued allowing for the erection of private houses and during the year 15 have been completed, whilst a further 8 were in course of erection.

At long last the making up of two private streets has been completed. These streets serve houses which were erected prior to 1939. The Council have also decided to prepare additional streets for making up in the near future.

In addition 2 existing houses have been converted into 4 separate occupations and the outbuildings of one large house have been adapted to a separate cottage.

Taking all these into account the Council has done a good job of work in connection with housing and they are hoping to have more houses in course of erection during the year 1951 as the waiting list of would be tenants is over 350 applicants.

Discussions have already taken place in regard to the building of houses for the reception of overspill from Stretford and Salford and it is expected that some development in this connection will take place during the coming year.

The usual routine inspections of privately owned houses were carried out and many defects were discovered which were all remedied as a result of informal action. One particular case resulted in the Tenant being removed by Court Action to the County Homes after which the house was thoroughly disinfected, repaired and re-occupied by a new tenant.

Generally speaking, housing conditions in the town are satisfactory, with only a small number of sub-standard houses of which the Council are fully aware.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

MILK SUPPLY

During the year the farms and dairies have been visited at various times, and continue to be kept in a satisfactory manner.

The sampling of the milk is undertaken by the Weights & Measures Department of the County Council, but no cases of adulterations were reported during the year.

Plans have been approved for the erection of a modern pasteurisation plant on land in Hollow Lane and it is hoped that when completed, this building will serve the general needs of the surrounding area.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES

All the slaughter houses in the area are closed and no animals have been slaughtered in the area during the year. The various butchers in the town receive their supplies from the allocation depot at Altrincham.

BAKEHOUSES.

There are 14 bakehouses in use in the district. These premises have been inspected periodically during the year, and notices requesting the occupiers to limewash the walls have been served at stated periods, and as occasion has required. The premises have been kept clean generally, and have been limewashed in accordance with regulations.

